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Kansas Health Policy Authority seeks public opinion *KHPA to hold Town Hall Meeting in Garden City on December 6*

In a series of Town Hall meetings being held across the State, the Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) and KHPA Board will be coming to Garden City on December 6 for a Town Hall Meeting in Western Kansas. Representatives from the KHPA Board and staff will be on-hand.

“This agency was created to improve the health of Kansans, and this is an opportunity for us to hear from Kansans on the direction of the Kansas health system,” said Marci Nielsen, Executive Director. “I encourage members of the public and all health stakeholders to join us for this meeting. Your perspective is important to the work of the Kansas Health Policy Authority.”

The meeting will be on Wednesday, December 6, 2006, from 4:00PM to 6:00PM at the Plaza Hotel, 1911 East Kansas Avenue, Garden City.

This is an opportunity for Kansans to engage on the subjects of Kansas health policy initiatives and reforms. The town hall meeting will provide an overview on those Kansas programs that are now within the agency’s purview, an update on the work of the agency and its future plans. Kansas will also be able to meet and interact with the staff of KHPA, as well as KHPA Board members.

On July 1, 2006, KHPA, an independent board-run agency, assumed operational control of the state’s Medicaid program and the State Employee Health Benefits Program. The Authority was formed to develop and maintain a coordinated health policy agenda that combines effective purchasing and administration with health promotion oriented public health strategies.

Registering to provide brief testimony can be accomplished by emailing to luke.thompson@khp.ks.gov or calling 785.296.7762 by 5:00PM on Friday, December 1. If time allows, other presenters may register at the meeting; however, all who testify must bring eight written copies of their testimony. Following those presentations, there will be a scheduled period for an open question and answer session.

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